Development of youth tourism during 8th Plan

2490. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to promo e youth tourism in the co untry;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken thereon during the current financial year in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of such programmes or schemes for the eighth plan period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO CINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In a recently concluded International Conference on Youth Tourism held in New Delhi, a number of recommendations for the development and promotion of Youth tourism were made which would be considered and acted upon by Ministries/Departments concerned with the development of youth tourism during the 8th Plan.

Ticket racket in Indian Airlines

2491. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of ticket racket in the Indian Airlines, if so, give details;

(b) whether it is also a fact that recently a passenger boarded flight No. IC 108 from Bangalore to Bombay with a boarding pass but without a ticket, if so, give details; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to avoid this kind of situation in future and what steps Government have taken against the erring officers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, one passenger with duplicate boarding pass was found on board IC-108 operating on sector Bangalore-Bombay on 18-11-1991. The passenger allegedly obtained the boarding card through a friend by paying money. An inquiry is being conducted by Indian Airlines' Vigilance Department and suitable action will be taken on the basis of the report.

Purchase of Rolls Royce engines for Boeing 747

2492. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the first quarter of 1990 a committee comprising the then Chairman Air India, Finance Director and two nominees of his Ministry had recommended the purchase of 11 Rolls Royce RB-2-11 524G engines for installation in two Boeing, 747s which would augment Air India's fleet;

(b) whether the *Arunachalam panel suggested that Rolls Royce was not the right choice, for both technical and economic reasons; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up an Expert Committee to go into the controversial deal and if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Air India had initially recommended selection of Rolls Royce engine.

(b) A high level Expert Committee headed by Dr. V. S. Arunachalam evaluated the alternatives and, based on this, fresh offers were obtained for Pratt & Whitney and General Electric engines. The contract was awarded to the manufacturers of Pratt & Whitney engines on the basis of superior techno-economic offer.

(c) Does not arise.

Ten points strategy to boost tourism

2493. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will theMinister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Secretary has suggested a ten point strategy to boost tourism and step up the foreign exchange earnings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have since examined the proposed strategy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the points of strategy Government propose to adopt?